

**MINUTES OF THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY INTERIM COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, April 20, 2005 – 8:00 a.m. – Room W015 House Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Gregory S. Bell, Senate Chair  
Rep. Sheryl L. Allen, House Chair  
Sen. Curtis S. Bramble  
Sen. Mike Dmitrich  
Sen. Beverly Evans  
Sen. Darin G. Peterson  
Rep. Ralph Becker  
Rep. Ben C. Ferry  
Rep. Lorie D. Fowlke  
Rep. Fred R. Hunsaker  
Rep. Roz J. McGee  
Rep. Michael E. Noel

Rep. Ross I. Romero  
Rep. Aaron Tilton  
Rep. David Ure  
Rep. Richard W. Wheeler

**Members Absent:**

Rep. Bradley M. Daw

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Richard C. North, Policy Analyst  
Mr. Chris Parker, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Phalin L. Flowers, Legislative Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present and a copy of related materials can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov) or by contacting the committee secretary, Phalin Flowers, at 538-1032. A recording of the meeting is available from the committee secretary.

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Allen called the meeting to order at 8:12 a.m.

The committee members introduced themselves and Chair Allen excused Rep. Daw from the meeting.

**MOTION:** Sen. Bell moved to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2004 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Dmitrich, Sen. Evans, Rep. Fowlke, and Rep. Tilton absent for the vote.

Rep. Allen introduced "Interim Report -- GATS and Electricity." She explained the importance of GATS in the world, and how trade agreements can make history.

Mr. North introduced "Energy Policy." He gave a brief overview of several states' energy policies, which are included in the document.

**2. Utility / Technology Legislative Recap: 2005 General Session**

Mr. Parker introduced "2005 General Session Legislation Passed." He briefly discussed each bill that passed in the 2005 General Session concerning utilities and technology.

Rep. Becker discussed the work he has been doing with Rep. Ure on creating a state energy policy.

Rep. Ure explained the importance of having a state energy policy.

**3. Utah Energy Office**

Mr. Gayle McKeachnie, Governor's Office, introduced this topic. He explained the energy director selection process and the duties of the new director.

Mr. Kevin Knight, Governor's Office, gave an overview of the four-state agreement for placing electrical transmission lines. He discussed a proposed new transmission line that would carry energy through several western states. He gave several reasons why it would be in Utah's best interest to participate in this new transmission line project, including boosting Utah's economy.

Ms. Terrah Anderson, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, clarified that the Governor's Office authorized the Department of Public Safety to hire a temporary staff member for work on energy emergencies planning.

#### **4. State Energy Policy**

Ms. Irene Rees, Director, Division of Public Utilities, expressed interest in being included in developing a state energy policy.

Mr. Scott Gutting, representing the Utah Energy Association, expressed his support for a state energy policy.

Ms. Shelly Cordon Teuscher, Parsons Behle & Latimer, representing LS Power Development, LLC, distributed and discussed "Presentation of LS Power Development, LLC to the Public Utilities and Technology Interim Committee." She explained that LS Power Development supports reforming the state's energy policy. LS Power also believes several important points should be taken into consideration when reforming the energy policy, including the potential for utility affiliate abuse.

Mr. Richard Walje, Executive Vice President, PacifiCorp, distributed and discussed "Utah Energy Policy." He briefly discussed the Wasatch Environmental Breakfast and the issues they discussed this year. He also explained Utah's electric energy position and several regulatory issues, including planning, air quality requirements, conservation, new resources, price increases, and economic development.

#### **5. Qualifying Power Generation Facilities: Mona, Utah**

Mr. Steve Mecham, representing Spring Canyon, introduced David Graeber, Principal in Spring Canyon, and David Olive, Quixx Corp.

Mr. Graeber discussed Spring Canyon and its work with the new power generation plant in Mona.

Mr. Ted Boyer, Public Service Commissioner, and Mr. Ron Allen, Public Service Commissioner, spoke to the issue of reforming the state's energy policy and to the recent approval of the Mona power generation plant.

Several members of the Committee expressed their gratitude to Spring Canyon for bringing jobs and other economic benefits to the rural counties of Utah.

**6. Committee Study Issues 2005**

The Committee discussed topics for potential study items this year.

**7. Other Items / Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Rep. Hunsaker moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Bramble, Sen. Evans, Rep. Becker, and Rep. Noel absent for the vote.

Chair Allen adjourned the meeting at 10:16 a.m.